

PLEASANT CREEK

HABITAT REHABILITATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Pool 13
Upper Mississippi River Miles
548.7 - 552.8

Jackson County, Iowa
Rock Island District



PROJECT AUTHORITY:

The Pleasant Creek, Iowa, habitat rehabilitation and enhancement project would be implemented as an element of the Upper Mississippi River System-Environmental Management Program (UMRS-EMP). The EMP was authorized by the 1986 Water Resources Development Act.

SITE DESCRIPTION:

The Pleasant Creek Wildlife Closed Area is a 2,530-acre floodplain bottomland consisting of wooded areas interspersed with small lakes and sloughs. All project site lands were acquired as part of the Corps of Engineers' 9-Foot Channel Navigation Project. Management responsibility was subsequently transferred, via cooperative agreement, to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The USFWS currently manages the area as a unit of the Savanna District of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

RESOURCE PROBLEM:

A series of spring and fall floods, coupled with higher pool levels, has resulted in increased turbidity and sedimentation with associated loss of aquatic vegetation and deterioration of waterfowl, other migratory birds, and aquatic mammal habitat.

PROJECT FEATURES:

- * Build interior closure dike to create moist soil management unit;
- * Improve water control capabilities by developing a water control plan and installing a well;
- * Protect selected reaches of perimeter levee;
- * Plant three acres of mast producing trees.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

Increases in waterfowl use days and offspring production. Muskrat population increase. Additional benefits would accrue to shorebirds and bald eagles.

FINANCIAL DATA:

General design costs are estimated at \$400,000, and construction costs (including S&A) are estimated at \$700,000.

Annual costs for operation, maintenance, and repair will be the responsibility of the USFWS. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is the non-Federal project sponsor.

STATUS:

A streamlined Definite Project Report was completed in August 2000. MVD approval was received in March 2001. Contract award is expected in May 2001. Scheduled construction completion is November 2001.